



IMAGE FORMING APPARATUS

FIELD OF THE INVENTION

The present invention relates to an image forming apparatus such as an electrophotographic printer, a facsimile machine and a copier, and specifically relates to a structure of a cleaning unit of such an image forming apparatus for scraping residual toner from a surface of a photoconductor after completion of an electrification process on the surface of the photoconductor and a toner transference process.

BACKGROUND OF THE INVENTION

The invention overcomes problems as explained below.

CONVENTIONAL PARTS OF THE INVENTION

Fig. 9 is a schematic side view of an image forming apparatus 50 having a conventional cleaning unit. A photoconductive drum 51 serving as an image carrier is installed in a not-illustrated chassis as well as a not-illustrated driving unit that drives the photoconductive drum 51 to rotate in the direction of the arrow A. A charging roller 52 for charging the periphery 51a of the photoconductive drum 51, an LED head 53 for irradiating the charged periphery 51a with an image beam to form an electrostatic latent image, and a developing roller 55 for causing a toner 54 to adhere to the latent image are disposed around the photoconductive drum 51.

A developing unit 56 is comprised of the developing roller 55, a toner supply roller 57 for supplying the developing roller 55 with the toner 54, and a not-illustrated toner cartridge storing the toner 54 to be supplied to the toner supply roller 57 and the developing roller 55. A transferring roller 58 and a cleaning unit 59 are disposed downstream from the developing roller 55. The transferring roller 58 receives at its rotation axis a certain pressure from a not- illustrated spring, so that

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